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DOCKET: CU-2845

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Atsushi HAYAKAWA et al.)
SERIAL NO: 10/074,359) Group Art Unit: 1744
FILED: February 12, 2002) Examiner: Sean E. Conley
TITLE: METHOD OF STERILIZATION FOR CONTAINER, APPARATUS
USING THEREFOR, AND HEAT TREATMENT FOR CONTAINER

THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action dated December 23, 2003 having a shortened statutory period for reply set to expire on March 23, 2004. Applicants submit the following responsive amendment in the above-identified application. Also submitted with this amendment is a Request for one-month Extension with the required fee, to extend the period of reply to April 23, 2004. Applicants believe this amendment places the application in better condition for allowance. Applicants' remarks are attached hereto and start on page 3.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the indicated paragraphs with the attached amended paragraphs.